

RON KIND
THIRD DISTRICT, WISCONSIN
SENIOR WHIP
WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

LA CROSSE OFFICE
205 5TH AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 400
LA CROSSE, WI 54601
(608) 782-2558 FAX: (608) 782-4588
TTY: (608) 782-1173
WEBSITE: kind.house.gov

July 17, 2019

Mr. Perry A. Sook
Chairman, President, and CEO
Nexstar Media Group, Inc.
545 E. John Carpenter Freeway
Irving, TX 75062

Mr. Randall Stephenson
Chairman and CEO
AT&T
208 South Akard Street
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Mr. Sook and Mr. Stephenson:

I write in regard of the ongoing dispute between your companies, which has resulted in the lapse in service for a number of stations including La Crosse- Eau Claire's broadcast station WLAX-TV, FOX 25-48.

Though this issue is a matter between two businesses, I am concerned about the dispute's impact on thousands of my constituents in Wisconsin who rely on WLAX-TV for local news, emergency weather alerts, and watching the Green Bay Packers football games. I am concerned that the decision to reduce services to paying customers disproportionately impacts rural customers who lack the connectivity to access alternative streaming services. Blackouts like this one have become an increasingly urgent consumer issue, and Wisconsin subscribers deserve better.

I urge both of your companies to continue negotiating in good faith in as timely a manner as possible. In the interim, I hope you will return these local stations to the airwaves as negotiations progress.

Sincerely,



Ron Kind
Member of Congress

EAU CLAIRE OFFICE
131 SOUTH BARSTOW STREET, SUITE 305
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701
(715) 831-9214 FAX: (715) 831-9272

DISTRICT TOLL FREE NUMBER
1-888-442-8040
TTY: 1-888-880-9180

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WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE
1502 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5506 FAX (202) 225-5739